THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"Wherever men can find the will of God, and find an administrator legally authorized from God, there is the kingdom of God; but where these are not, the kingdom of God is not."—JOSEPH SMITH.

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CONVENTION OF CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS.

(*Concluded from page 247.*)

The evening session commenced at 7 o'clock by singing, "Glorious things of thee are spoken." Prayer by Elder James D. Todd. Singing, "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire."

The hearing of reports from the conferences was resumed.

President Cyril Duffin (Newcastle) hoped the same spirit that had characterized the previous sessions would be with them again. He rejoiced in hearing the testimony of Professor McClellan. The Newcastle conference was in a good condition. A spirit of unity prevails among the elders. They are humble and diligent in the study of the scriptures. The majority are working up to the new tracting rule. Persecution, which had been so bitter in some places, is dying out. We are now receiving the protection of the police. Some of the most influential men in the town of Sunderland are now friendly to us. As a result of this change in public feeling, the prospects are much brighter. There are nine organized branches in the conference. Two of these meet in halls that are owned by the Church. There has been an increase in tithing. The saints are all feeling well and striving to do their duty. President Duffin here referred to the recent death of Elder Ralph H. Hendricks. He said the deceased elder bore a strong testimony to the truth of the gospel, and had labored faithfully as a missionary. In conclusion, the speaker said the elders in the Newcastle conference are keeping the word of wisdom. Personally, he felt well in the work. His testimony of the gospel had been much strengthened while on his mission, and he was enjoying his labors.

President Thomas E. Winegar (Nottingham) felt he had been greatly privileged to come on a mission and be an instrument in helping to get the gospel before the people. The Nottingham conference is in a thriving condition. They had ten branches, with only sixteen elders in all. They needed more missionaries. It had been necessary to close one branch on account of a shortage of elders. There had been an improvement in the tithing record the last six months. An effort had been made to liquidate some old debts. The elders had tried to collect some outstanding *Star* accounts, and also to get new subscribers. He was strongly in favor of the new tracting rule. The elders are working hard to come up to the minimum, and some of them are getting in as much as fifteen hours a week. He felt that a conference president's motto should be, "Come on, brethren," not "Go on, brethren." The elders are all keeping the word of wisdom. In conclusion, the speaker said he was glad to be in this land as an ambassador for God. He prayed that they might all be diligent and successful in their labors.

President Peter S. Condie (Scottish conference) said he had rejoiced over the previous meetings, especially the afternoon one. He had been blessed and strengthened by the instructions of President Clawson. Felt sure that if they would all bear them in mind they would be fortified against many temptations. He rejoiced in the progress of the work of the Lord. He felt as certain that the gospel had been restored to the earth in these days as that he was there present. In the Scottish conference the number of elders are few considering the ground to be covered, but they were doing the best they could. As buildings are generally constructed in Scotland, it is easy to distribute tracts. The people receive them freely, but it is not so easy to get them into conversation. Faith, in olden times, usually came by hearing the word of God; in our days, it often comes by reading the gospel message. In Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh we have good branches. The elders are doing their best to get the gospel before the people. He felt like going on in the work. He hoped they as conference presidents would be able to set a worthy example before the elders and saints, that they would all prove true and faithful and at last receive a celestial crown in their Father's kingdom.

President Milton Jacob (Sheffield) said he had been much interested in the meetings of the convention. His desire was to do all he could to advance the interests of the work of the Lord, by helping to bring honest souls to a knowledge of the truth. Felt thankful that he had been deemed worthy to bear the gospel message to the people of this land. A great responsibility rested upon them as elders of Israel. Among these many millions of people, the Latter-day Saints alone possess the authority to preach the gospel. In the Sheffield conference the elders are united and

are working energetically. He believed they were strictly observing the word of wisdom. Street preaching he regarded as the most effective way of getting the gospel before the people. As to tracting, they were well up to the minimum, as a rule. There was an improvement in the payment of tithes. He had instructed the elders to keep the principle before the saints. Trusted that the blessing of the Lord would be with them, that they might be enabled to attain still greater results in the future.

Elder E. Taft Benson expressed his pleasure at being present at that convention. He felt that they had all enjoyed a spiritual feast. The remarks and testimonies of President Clawson and Professor McClellan were especially good. His associations with President Clawson for the past two years had been of inestimable value to himself. His (Elder Benson's) position as secretary of the European mission, had its difficulties, but they had been very educative. The experiences of his mission had been a great blessing to him. Hoped when he returned home he would be able to take the missionary spirit with him. He desired to follow counsel and do his part in advancing the interests of truth. The speaker related some interesting experiences he had passed through, in company with other elders, during the agitation of two years ago. Said the Latter-day Saints are doing more for the salvation of the world than any other people on earth. Testified that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet of God, and prayed that they might all be faithful in the discharge of their duties.

Elder Thomas E. Briggs said he had been greatly interested in the meetings of the convention and had enjoyed the spirit that prevailed. Felt that we should all be thankful that we are living in an age of the world when the true gospel is upon the earth. He rejoiced exceedingly that we have men to-day, as in days of old, who have the authority to speak in the name of the Lord. The instructions of President Clawson that day had helped him very much. The speaker said he had a testimony of the truth of the gospel before leaving home, but it had been strengthened greatly since his coming into the mission field. He had proved that the Lord would hear and answer our prayers, if we are humble. He hoped to be instrumental in doing something to advance the cause of truth on the earth. He trusted that they would all continue to labor in a spirit of love, to seek out the honest in heart and bring them to a knowledge of the truth.

Elder Hugh Ireland said that was the fourth presidents' convention he had attended, and he had enjoyed them all and received much benefit from them. He deemed it a privilege to meet with the presidents, to listen to their testimonies, and to hear the good instructions that had been given. Had enjoyed his labors in the mission field, and was grateful for the opportunities thus afforded of bearing testimony to the truth, by voice and pen, to many people in these lands. He desired to remind the presidents of the

necessity of securing new subscribers to the *Millennial Star*. It has been a messenger of light to many an honest seeker after truth, and a source of help and encouragement to the saints, and they should not allow its usefulness to be diminished. It was important to get all the Church literature in circulation that was possible, especially the standard works of the Church. He trusted that the convention would be a help and an inspiration to all present.

President Clawson expressed his pleasure at the manner of procedure and the progress they had made. He felt that the peaceful influence of the Holy Spirit was in their midst. It is an evidence that the Lord is with them, and that He is pleased with our work. The convention has been an exceedingly profitable one to us all. The reports given and the testimonies borne had been excellent and a spirit of oneness and brotherly love had prevailed. It had been a day of rich experience and priceless instruction. All the presidents had reported and all present had expressed themselves. Thus each had a voice in the proceedings. There would be another session held to-morrow. Any questions or particular items could then receive attention. He would also have some concluding remarks to make. Considering the reports to which they had listened, it was evident that a great deal of good had been accomplished throughout the conferences. He was much interested in the testimonies of the brethren as to the persecution that had been met in some places. In all these experiences it was easy to see the hand of the Lord. Such experiences, though for the time unpleasant, were a means of profit and blessing to those who passed through them, and invariably resulted in the advancement of the cause of truth and righteousness.

Singing, "Come all ye sons of Zion." Benediction by President William H. Stayner.

The meeting adjourned to reconvene next morning.

The closing session of the convention opened at 9:30 o'clock on Friday morning. Singing, "Redeemer of Israel." Prayer was offered by President Samuel H. Cornaby. Singing, "God moves in a mysterious way."

President Clawson said that was the last session of the convention. They had heard, either in testimony or report, from all who were present. An opportunity would now be given for questions or suggestions.

President Melvin J. Benson said some members had expressed a doubt as to whether God the Father had ever visited the earth in person. He would like some information concerning the matter.

President Clawson said it was undoubtedly true that God had visited the earth. The Prophet Joseph Smith testified in the clearest terms that he saw both the Father and the Son. That they came to the earth and appeared to the Prophet was beyond question. We also read in the Pearl of Great Price, "that Moses

stood in the presence of God, and talked with Him face to face." In view of these testimonies, it is wrong to say that God the Father has never visited the earth.

President Melvin J. Benson—Did the Savior need to have hands laid upon Him and be ordained to the Priesthood? if so. when was it done?

President Clawson said that Jesus was one of the Godhead. He was God manifest in the flesh. As such He doubtless brought the authority with Him. We learn from the scriptures that Jeremiah was ordained to be a prophet before he was born on the earth. We also read of Jesus being baptized and of the Holy Ghost descending upon Him. If it were necessary for the Priesthood to be conferred on Jesus on the earth, it could have been done on the Mount of Transfiguration.

President Warren S. Tew asked—How long did the resurrection at the time of the Savior last?

President Clawson said an erroneous idea of the resurrection is entertained by many people. They believe that all will come forth at the same time. If such were the case it would lead to much confusion. Those who hold such views seem to regard the "morning of the resurrection" as meaning but a few hours—as the morning of an ordinary day. We must remember, however, that a day with the Lord is a thousand years, and that the morning of such a day would mean about two hundred and fifty years. So the word morning, as used in this connection, must be regarded in the larger sense, which explains the whole matter. Jesus was the first-fruits of the resurrection. Then the righteous dead, who had lived before Him, were resurrected. We must assume that John the Baptist and Peter, James and John are resurrected beings, because they appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith and conferred the Priesthood upon him. As all do not die at once, it is reasonable to believe that they will be resurrected in a somewhat similar order.

President John F. Oleson—Are we to understand that those who died before Christ will come forth before those who died later?

President Clawson, in reply, said that such would be the case. The words of the Prophet Alma, in the Book of Mormon, are emphatic on that point.

A number of important questions were asked and discussed, and many valuable instructions were given by President Clawson bearing upon matters of business as well as doctrine.

President Clawson, in bringing the proceedings of the convention to a close, spoke of the delightful spirit that had prevailed throughout all the sessions. After all the agitation and persecution, he said, there is now a perfect calm. He was delighted with the spirit of the brethren and with their faith and integrity. He must rely to a great extent on the conference presidents. They were his right hand men—his immediate representatives through-

out the British mission. Through these conventions he was enabled to reach them, and to take counsel with them. It now remained for them to reach the elders in the different conferences in the same way. His relation to them was equivalent to theirs with the elders. Perfect order prevailed in all ranks of the Priesthood. As set forth in the Book of Abraham, there is a higher authority for each to recognize. At the head of all the organizations of the Priesthood stands the Prophet of God. Then the authority reaches into the heavens and into eternity.

Continuing, President Clawson said he would like to meet with the elders and saints oftener. As that was not possible, he must speak to them through the conference presidents. That was how Jesus operated. He chose twelve apostles, then seventy elders, and another seventy. In the Church to-day it is not possible for the Prophet to visit the people through all the stakes of Zion. So he sends the apostles and others, who report to him. He (President Clawson) did not know where he could find brethren more united and more devoted than were before him. During the three years of his presidency he had had no differences with a single president. There had been no necessity for any trouble or anxiety concerning them. That was a grand record and he was proud of it. None of them had failed him. It was wonderful what the Lord had done. In Sunderland, in Ipswich, in Seaton Hirst, in Birkenhead, in Bristol, in London and in Liverpool, they had been blessed and protected. The Lord had heard and answered their prayers, and given them the victory. The affairs of the mission are in good shape. The business of the British mission and of the Liverpool office are now kept separately. We are trying to introduce a uniform system of book-keeping in all the conferences of the British mission.

They had discussed many important matters, but of these tracting, the word of wisdom and tithing are the most important. The presidents must assert their authority and see that the rules of the mission are not trifled with. Street preaching is important and should be engaged in as far as possible. They must keep up to the minimum as to tracting, and should endeavor, if possible, to go beyond it. The saints must be taught the necessity of observing the word of wisdom and the law of tithing. The presidents should be able to report whether the elders are observing the word of wisdom or not. The elders should also endeavor to secure subscribers for the *Star*. Social meetings among the saints are productive of much good and should be encouraged.

In conclusion, President Clawson said—I pray that the blessing of Almighty God will be with you in greater measure from this time forth. He is pleased with the spirit of oneness that prevails amongst us. We are one in heart and spirit and purpose. This is bound to bring down the blessing of the Lord upon us. When we unite in prayer, that prayer will reach the heavens, and our

petitions, if for our good, will be granted. May God bless you, my brethren. May you be sustained and rendered equal to every requirement of your responsible positions. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I bless you, your loved ones, and your children. I pray that you may be prospered and that means will be multiplied in your hands. May you be privileged to return to your homes, in due time, rejoicing in the success of your labors and in the goodness of the Lord. May His peace and blessing ever attend you, is my humble prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The convention was brought to a close by singing, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning." Benediction by President Warren S. Tew.

Branch Conference.—A branch conference was held in the Liberal Club Rooms, Worcester Street, Kidderminster (Birmingham conference), on Sunday, March 30th, 1913. President Warren S. Tew and six traveling elders were in attendance. The first session convened at 2:30 p.m. After the regular opening exercises, President Tew presented the names of the general and local authorities, who were all unanimously sustained. Elder Edward M. Guymon commented upon the sacrament, and said that every time we partake of these emblems we renew our covenants and signify our willingness to keep the commandments of God. Elder J. Wallace Clegg felt to rejoice in his labors as a missionary. He knew that this latter-day work was of God, and that the principles taught are Divine. Elder Joseph E. Webb spoke of the faith exhibited by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and showed what great blessings had been brought to the world through his life and labors. The evening meeting was called to order at 6:30 o'clock. Elder Leland F. Pilkington urged upon his hearers the necessity of preparing themselves for places in the celestial kingdom of God. Elder Samuel D. Wilstead dwelt on the necessity of a willing obedience to the commandments of God. Elder Andrew Wilson cited the case of the conversion of Saul to show that revelation was given after Christ had gone into heaven. For holding the view that prophets are needed to-day, the Latter-day Saints are being persecuted just as the saints of old were. President Warren S. Tew said that we teach nothing but what we honestly believe to be true. We desire to give freely of the light we have received, and invite all men to come out of darkness. He hoped all would consider well our message.

THERE is only one thing greater than happiness in the world, and that is holiness; and it is not in our keeping; but what God has put in our power is the happiness of those about us, and that is largely to be secured by being kind to them.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

WHY "MORMON" ELDERS NEVER JOIN OTHER CHURCHES.

THE question was recently asked, "Do none of your elders ever get converted to other religions while they are away on missions?" The answer was given that there was not a single case of the kind on record. Much surprise was expressed by the gentleman who asked the question. The query was certainly a very pertinent one and the reply well calculated to set one thinking. Well known and eminent preachers have occasionally changed from one denomination to another of the Reformed Churches, and there have been a few cases of prominent ministers of the Protestant Church becoming converts to Roman Catholicism and *vice versa*. In view of these facts, it is very remarkable that of the thousands of Latter-day Saint missionaries sent out into the world, who have labored in this and other lands, there is not a single instance that we are aware of where one of them has been converted to another religion. On the other hand, however, there are instances where able and respected ministers of other churches were sent among the Latter-day Saints as missionaries, who, when they came to impartially consider the religion they were sent to oppose, were so impressed with its superiority to their own, that they willingly gave up their positions and accepted the faith of the Latter-day Saints.

During the last three-quarters of a century many thousands of missionaries have been sent into the different nations of the earth by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to teach the gospel of Christ, as it is understood by them. By far the greater number of these are young men, of limited experience and with merely an elementary knowledge of the great truths they were sent out to proclaim. They are thus brought into immediate contact with the teachings of the various sects of modern Christendom. They see at once the necessity of giving diligent study to the principles of the faith they are called upon to advocate. When they turn to the clearly-defined doctrines of their Church, which are so different from the teachings of all other churches, they are astonished at the power and consistency of their own religion. An increasing sense of its superiority to all else that they come in contact with never fails to evoke their admiration and enthusiasm. As they meet and converse with those entertaining different beliefs, whether it be the eminent theologian or

the humble cottager, the conviction deepens as experience increases that the Church they have the honor to represent possesses the very truth and authority of heaven. All that the other churches have to offer is so manifestly inferior to what they already possess, that it appears to them the greatest wonder in the world how people will argue and contend so persistently for doctrines that are so transparently false and unscriptural. They come in time to see that the entire volume of scripture sustains their religious views, while most of those they meet with are satisfied to hang their faith and eternal salvation upon a few detached texts, without any regard to the general teachings of the sacred volume. The arguments that are advanced by those who oppose them, and the unchristian spirit so often manifest, are conclusive evidence of the superiority of their own religion. The tactics of the average sectarian controversialist—spiritualizing, equivocating, playing hide-and-go-seek with the word of God—all these indicate so clearly the weakness of their cause, that it is no wonder the Latter-day Saint elder ever testifies that the longer he is in the mission field, the stronger becomes his testimony to the truth and divinity of his own religion.

Anyone who has the courage to look beneath the unpopular name of "Mormonism" will find that it represents the pure, unadulterated religion of heaven. It is superior to all other religions because it embraces all that is best in them, and by virtue of its Divine origin and authority, has continual access to the heavenly source of all wisdom and truth. It possesses Divine records and revelations of which other churches know nothing, because they are unwilling to receive them. What has the Christian world to offer to a Latter-day Saint—with the exception of worldly popularity—that he does not already possess? In giving a summary of "Mormon" doctrine, Mr. Rollin Lynde Hart, a non-"Mormon," in a recent issue of the *Atlantic Monthly*, wrote as follows:

"Are you a Baptist? The 'Mormon' believes in immersion. A Methodist? The 'Mormon' obeys his bishop. A Campbellite? The 'Mormon' claims a yet closer return to apostolic ordinances. A Theosophist? The 'Mormon' holds to pre-existence. A Faith Healer? The 'Mormon' heals by the laying on of hands. A Second Adventist? The 'Mormon' waits the Messiah. A Universalist? The 'Mormon' says all will be saved. Massing his proof he declares his peerless religion the one immutable, eternal faith, lost in the early ages and restored in the latter days, though glimmering in broken lights through all the creeds of Christendom. 'Bring me from Europe or Asia,' said Brigham Young, 'a truth that is not a part of 'Mormonism,' and I'll give a thousand errors for it, if you can find them.' Limited only by the broad bounds of Christianity, this faith is an amalgamated and co-ordinated parliament of religions."

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches all the gospel truths that are taught by the churches of modern Christendom. It presents them, moreover, not as they have been in-

terpreted by uninspired theologians, but as they have been made clear by the unerring inspiration of Almighty God. It also teaches many other glorious truths the knowledge of which has been entirely lost by the churches of to-day, but which has been revealed anew from heaven in this dispensation. The sectarian churches have but one article of faith which they commonly regard as absolutely vital, and that is: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." If that be the only condition of salvation, as they so emphatically assert, then every Latter-day Saint can surely "read his title clear to mansions in the skies." We believe most earnestly that Jesus is the Eternal Son of God, and that He died to atone for our sins. If their teaching be true, then we are assured of salvation, as well as they. But a Latter-day Saint occupies higher and safer ground. Not only does he believe in Jesus, but he has been taught that it is necessary to keep all His commandments. There is no people on earth who receive and obey more implicitly the Savior's teachings than do the Latter-day Saints. They believe and teach, just as He did, that we should "bring forth fruits worthy of repentance." They also believe that He spoke the truth when He said: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." If these latter considerations be vital—and we do not believe that the Son of God taught any unnecessary conditions—then, by obeying them, we do His will and keep His commandments, while those who reject them are certain to incur condemnation.

Our missionaries, coming from communities that are composed mainly of Latter-day Saints, soon perceive the difference between conditions here and those amidst which they have lived. They see at once that the weight of evidence as to the regenerating power of the gospel is entirely in favor of their own religion. The prevailing religions set no premium on right living and the doctrines taught bring no inspiration to the individual life. It is thus evident that such religion is not a practical force in the every-day life of the great mass of professing Christians, and that it has no solution for the social and economic problems of the age. On the other hand, the Latter-day Saints are successfully grappling with all these problems. Those who are familiar with the conditions that exist in their communities are forced to admit that if such a state of things were to prevail universally, evil, unrest and poverty would be well-nigh banished from the earth.

It is only by comparison that we learn the relative value of things. Those of the Latter-day Saints who are most familiar with other religions set the highest value upon their own. They know the darkness and uncertainty that are so characteristic of other churches. They know also the light and truth and blessings that the restored gospel of Christ has brought to them. The "Mormon" elder who has had the opportunity of conversing with

many people, and of comparing his religion with theirs, learns to appreciate its beauty and consistency as he never could have done without such opportunities. Thus he invariably returns from the mission field with greater faith in the gospel he was sent into the world to proclaim to the people. No Latter-day Saint who has been true to his religion has ever turned from it to another. The restored gospel of Christ embraces so much truth and brings such light and comfort and blessings that no one who possesses these can ever become a convert to another faith.

H. I.

PRESIDENT RUDGER CLAWSON, whose valedictory appeared in last week's *Star*, sailed on the s.s. *Virginian*, April 11th, 1913, for Halifax. There will be a common feeling of regret among the elders and saints of the European mission at his departure. During the three years of his presidency he endeared himself to all who had the privilege of laboring under his jurisdiction or who came in contact with him in other capacities. His regular attendance at the semi-annual conferences of the British mission was always looked forward to with pleasure, and his timely words of exhortation and counsel were much appreciated by the elders and saints. His genial presence and encouraging words were an inspiration to them, while his fervent testimony to the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the restoration of the gospel commanded respectful attention. To the elders laboring under his direction, he was truly a father, ever inviting and responding to their confidence. Notwithstanding the immense volume of business connected with the European mission, no elder, saint or investigator ever sought light or information from him on any reasonable question in vain. We who have been intimately associated with him at headquarters have profited much by his example. His whole-hearted devotion to the work of the Lord and his readiness to go where duty called, regardless of every personal consideration, have won our admiration. Our associations together have been pleasant and helpful, and the kindly counsels and encouraging words we received from him will ever be gratefully remembered. May the peace and blessing of heaven be with him and his loved ones through all the years to come.—H. I.

MINUTES OF SCOTTISH CONFERENCE.

THE annual Scottish conference was held in the Masonic Hall, 30 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, April 13th, 1913. There were present: Elder E. Taft Benson, Acting President of the European mission; Elder Orval W. Adams, of the Liverpool office; President Peter S. Condie and fifteen traveling elders of the Scottish conference.

The morning session began at 10:30, by singing, "The happy day

has rolled on." Prayer was offered by Elder George P. Campbell. Singing, "Behold the Great Redeemer die."

The sacrament was administered by Elders William E. Moss and Sidney M. Beckstead.

President Condie welcomed all present, and trusted that the Spirit of the Lord would be with them during the day, that all might be benefitted by the conference. Expressed his regret that President Clawson was unable to attend, as they had expected to see him at conference.

Elder Charles V. Kimball said the Latter-day Saints are teaching the same gospel that Christ and His apostles taught. Showed that the Lord had prepared a plan by which all His children could be saved. Said those who die without hearing the gospel will be given a chance to hear it and to receive all the benefits of the same.

Elder H. Eugene Bair spoke upon the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon. Showed from the Bible that two records would be kept and come forth as witnesses for God. Asked all present to investigate the claims of this sacred record.

"Though deep'ning trials," was pleasingly sung by Sister J. H. Smith, of Edinburgh branch.

Elder William E. Allen showed the necessity of revelation, and pointed out that the absence of it was responsible for the conditions that prevailed in the religious world to-day. Singing, "Count your blessings."

Elder Orval W. Adams related some of the prophecies of the Prophet Joseph Smith and their fulfillment. He said these proved that he was a true prophet of the Lord.

Elder E. S. Wilcox spoke of the coming forth of the Latter-day work, and showed that it was in fulfillment of prophecies recorded in the Bible.

Singing, "Lo, the mighty God appearing." Benediction by Elder Adam M. Hunter.

The afternoon session began at 2 o'clock by singing, "Come, let us anew." Prayer by Elder Sidney M. Beckstead. Singing, "We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet."

President Condie presented the general and local authorities of the Church, all of whom were unanimously sustained.

Brother James McPherson sang, "What voice salutes the startled ear?"

Conference Clerk Sidney M. Beckstead read the labor and statistical report for the past six months.

Elder D. P. Frost spoke of the second coming of the Savior. Proved from the Bible that He would come again and would redeem His people, if they would obey His teachings.

Singing, "Truth reflects upon our senses."

Elder E. Taft Benson dwelt upon the beauties of the principles of the gospel. He said they give the inhabitants of the earth

their free agency, that by obeying them they might get salvation and enjoy it, feeling that they had earned it, thus doing away with the idea that the Savior had done it all. In order to be saved we must keep the commandments of God to the end of our lives. Thus while it is true that all will be resurrected, yet those who have done good will come forth in the resurrection of the just, and those who have done evil in the resurrection of the unjust.

Singing, "Glorious things of thee are spoken." Benediction by Brother James McPherson.

The evening session began at 6:30 by singing, "All hail the glorious day." Prayer by Elder William E. Moss. Singing, "Sunshine in the soul."

Elder Lewis Jones showed that baptism is essential to salvation, and that it should be performed by immersion. A duet was pleasingly rendered by Sister Mary Park and James McPhee.

Elder V. B. Anderson bore his testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel and invited all to investigate the teachings of the Latter-day Saints.

James McPhee sang a beautiful solo, entitled "Light in darkness."

President Condie said he was pleased with the conference and wished to add his testimony to those that had been borne. Some claim that the Latter-day Saints worship Joseph Smith, but that is not true. We worship God and Him only. We honor Joseph Smith as a Prophet on account of the great work that he has done, just as we honor all the prophets. The first revelation that was given to Joseph Smith was that none of the churches was right; that they taught for doctrine the commandments of men. Does not the condition of the world to-day bear this out? Isaiah predicted this condition—that the ordinance would be changed and the everlasting covenant broken. Some claim that this prediction refers to the law of Moses. But the law of Moses was not an everlasting covenant; it was a schoolmaster to bring the people unto Christ. He testified that the Latter-day Saints have the same organization and teach the same doctrines that were taught by Christ and His Apostles, and the same gifts follow those who obey their teachings. He said no man is authorized to preach the gospel unless he is called of God, as was Aaron.

Singing, "How great the joy." Benediction by Elder E. Taft Benson.

Excellent singing was furnished by the Glasgow branch choir, under the able leadership of Elder Adam M. Hunter.

Refreshments were served at the hall between the meetings.

President Condie met with the elders in Priesthood meeting on Saturday, April 12th, 1913. The elders reported their labors for the past six months, and some good instructions were given.

SIDNEY M. BECKSTEAD, Clerk of Conference.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Arrival.—Elder Thomas W. Brookbank, of Holbrook, Arizona, arrived here Sunday, April 20th, 1913, per s.s. *Victorian*. He has been assigned to labor in the Liverpool office.

Concert in Carlisle.—On Monday, April 4th, 1913, an enjoyable concert was held at 47 Scotch Street, Carlisle (Newcastle conference), in connection with the district meeting on the preceding day. The program consisted of songs, recitations, instrumental music and sketches. One object of the concert was to liquidate our branch debt which, we are pleased to say, will now be cancelled. The hall was crowded, and all present expressed themselves as having spent an enjoyable evening.

Relief Society Sale of Work.—On Saturday, March 22nd, 1913, the Relief Society of Hyde branch (Manchester conference), celebrated the 71st anniversary of the organization of the Relief Society, with a sale of work, which was opened by Sister Rebecca M. Hone, of Utah. The stalls were tastefully decorated with pretty and useful articles. There was a good attendance, and all present seemed to enjoy themselves. The sum of £7, clear, was realized, which was very gratifying to the members who worked so hard to make the event—the first of its kind held in the Manchester conference—so decided a success.

Releases and Departures.—Elders A. T. Johnson, George Hamp, John W. Haslam and Elmer C. Rigby, of the British mission, have been honorably released and sailed for home April 17th, 1913, per s.s. *Celtic*. The following named missionaries have been honorably released and sailed for home April 18th, 1913, per s.s. *Virginian*. From Switzerland and Germany—J. Leslie Smith, S. G. Spillman, John H. Knnzler, Orrin Fisher. From Scandinavia—Orson C. Nielsen, L. J. C. Dansel, H. A. Bjorkman, C. Earl Anhder. From Sweden—John P. Pehrson, Jonas Anderson. From the Netherlands—Sylvester Low. With the company were twenty-five emigrants in charge of Elders H. A. Bjorkman, C. Earl Anhder, and S. G. Spillman.

Baptisms.—At a baptismal service held in the Mansfield Baths, Mansfield (Nottingham conference), on Monday, April 7th, 1913, eleven souls were added to the fold of Christ. Elders William J. Session and Edsel H. Adams officiated.

A baptismal service was held on Sunday, April 6th, 1913, at the Turkish Baths, George Street, Hull (Hull conference), when two members were admitted into the Church of Christ. Elder Douglas T. Murdock officiated.

A baptismal service was held at 106 Ann Street, Belfast (Irish

conference), on Saturday, April 12th, 1913, when three souls were added to the fold of Christ.

At a baptismal service held in the Gorton Baths, Manchester (Manchester conference), April 12th, 1913, eleven souls were added to the Church of Christ. Elders Henry Hone, George H. Parker, J. Scott Ledingham and Parley Z. Hatch officiated.

District Meeting.—Two sessions of a successful district meeting were held in Room 2, Foresters' Hall, Hull (Hull conference), Sunday, March 23rd, 1913, at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. President John F. Oleson and four traveling elders were in attendance. President Oleson cordially welcomed all present and explained why the Latter-day Saints vote to sustain the authorities of the Church. Conference Secretary Elias A. Lemon presented the general and local authorities, who were unanimously sustained. Elder Douglas T. Murdock showed the necessity of unity among the saints. Said if we are humble and prayerful, and seek God's guidance, we will we able to overcome all obstacles. Elder Elias A. Lemon pointed out the blessings that come through obedience to God's commands and following the counsels of those who are authorized to act in His name. At the evening session Elder Thomas E. Kidd compared the teachings of the primitive Church with those of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Said that salvation is gained by humility and obedience to the gospel. President Oleson dwelt at length on the resurrection of the body and gave scriptural proof to show that it is a true doctrine of the gospel.

Successful Socials.—In the Labor Hall, Stroud (Bristol conference), on Thursday, April 3rd, 1913, a farewell social was given in honor of Elder Lance L. Graham, who is returning to his home in Zion. A very interesting program was rendered, including several sketches by the children, which were much appreciated by all present. During the evening Elder J. F. Palmer, in behalf of the saints and friends of the Stroud branch, presented Elder Graham with a beautiful carving set as a token of esteem. All joined in wishing him God-speed on his journey homeward.

A successful social was held at Brother Albert Bigg's home, in the Pontypool branch (Bristol conference), on March 24th, 1913. There was a good attendance of saints and friends. An excellent program was rendered, refreshments were served, and games were indulged in by all. The saints and friends enjoyed a pleasant evening together.

A very enjoyable social was given at St. Stephen's Chambers, Norwich (Norwich conference), on Saturday, March 29th, 1913, in honor of Elder A. T. Johnson, who is about to return to his home in Zion. An interesting program was rendered, and refreshments were served under the direction of the Relief Society, after which games were freely indulged in by all. Elder Johnson was pre-

sented with a beautiful signet ring by the elders and saints of the branch, and also with a token of remembrance from the primary department of the Sunday School. An enjoyable evening was spent by all.

On Saturday evening, April 5th, 1913, a successful farewell social was given in the Hucknall branch chapel, 46 Whyburn Street (Nottingham conference), in honor of Elder John W. Haslam, who has been honorably released to return home. A very interesting program was rendered, and the evening was enjoyed by all present. After the program, refreshments were served by the amusement committee of the branch. Elder Haslam was presented with a traveling rug, as a token of esteem from the saints.

A very successful conference social was held April 8th, 1913, in the Foresters' Hall, Hull (Hull conference), where about eighty saints and friends met and enjoyed themselves. An interesting program was rendered, after which refreshments were served and games indulged in. An enjoyable spirit prevailed throughout the evening.

The opening social of the Accrington branch (Liverpool conference), was held in the Assembly Room, Borough Cafe, Saturday evening, April 12th, 1913. There was an attendance of about a hundred saints and friends, nearly every branch in the conference being represented. Those who took part in the program rendered their selections very pleasingly, and many interesting games were played. The social was a decided success in every way, and will doubtless live in the minds of the saints and elders of this newly-organized branch as an epoch in the social history of the Liverpool conference.

DIED.

McDONALD.—At Glasgow, March 25th, 1913, Jeannie Robertson McDonald; born at Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland, May 29th, 1883; baptized July 13th, 1906, by Elder A. T. Pendry. Funeral service was held at the home by President P. S. Condie, Elders W. E. Moss, A. M. Hunter, E. S. Wilcox and S. M. Beckstead. Sister McDonald was a faithful Latter-day Saint. *Deseret News* please copy.

SEWELL.—At Harrogate, March 15th, 1913, Sister Jessie Sewell, aged 61 years; baptized May 29th, 1899. She was a faithful Latter-day Saint.

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